

## Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-07

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R 172331Z DEC 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

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STADIS//////////

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: ECRP, YO

SUBJECT:MODIFICATION OF ECONOMIC REPORTING REQUIREMENTS  
BELGRADE 6328

1. DEPARTMENT APPRECIATES AMBASSADOR'S THOUGHTFUL REVIEW  
OF REPORTING REQUIREMENTS. WE BELIEVE INTERESTED  
WASHINGTON AGENCIES WOULD AGREE TO SOME, BUT NOT ALL, OF  
THE PROPOSED CURTAILMENTS. WITHOUT CITING REFTTEL, WE HAVE  
CONDUCTED INFORMAL SOUNDINGS WITH VARIOUS ELEMENTS OF  
TREASURY, CIA, AND COMMERCE.

2(A) UPON RECEIPT OF A FORMAL RECOMMENDATION FROM THE  
EMBASSY, THE DEPARTMENT WOULD BE PREPARED TO SEEK AND  
SUPPORT CERP AMENDMENTS ALONG THE FOLLOWING LINES:

(I) DELETE CERP 0101 OR, ALTERNATIVELY, MAKE IT A  
CERPUB REQUIREMENT, TO BE MET WITH PUBLISHED DATA ON  
AN AS-AVAILABLE BASIS. WASHINGTON AGENCIES WANT WHAT-  
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EVER NUMBERS ARE AVAILABLE ON A TIMELY BASIS.

(II) AMEND CERP 0004 TO SHOW A FREQUENCY OF ONLY ONCE PER YEAR INSTEAD OF TWICE, WITH A DUE DATE TO BE PROPOSED BY POST, PREFERABLY IN APRIL AS PRESENTLY SCHEDULED.

THIS WOULD DELETE THE OCTOBER TRENDS REPORT AND PUT THE CERP 0004 REQUIREMENT FOR BELGRADE ON THE SAME FREQUENCY AS FOR MOSCOW, WARSAW, AND OTHER EASTERN EUROPEAN POSTS. POSTS IN WESTERN EUROPE HAVE A TWICE-PER-YEAR REQUIREMENT. THE CERP 0004 REQUIREMENT FOR YUGOSLAVIA AND THE CERP 0006 REQUIREMENT DETERMINE, INTER ALIA, THE FREQUENCY OF COVERAGE GIVEN TO YUGOSLAVIA IN THE PAGES OF COMMERCE TODAY. EMBASSY'S MORE COMPREHENSIVE VOLUNTARY QUARTERLY ANALYTICAL REPORTS MAY BE DRAWN UPON TO SAVE TIME IN THE PREPARATION OF THE CERP 0004 TRENDS REPORT, BUT WE DO NOT RPT NOT BELIEVE IT DESIRABLE TO SEEK TOTAL ELIMINATION OF THE CERP 0004 REQUIREMENT.

(B) THE POST MAY WISH TO CONSIDER A WORK SCHEDULE ALONG THE FOLLOWING LINES: CERP 0004 TRENDS REPORT, DUE APRIL 15, REFLECTING ANNUAL RESULTS FOR THE PREVIOUS CALENDAR YEAR AND FIRST-QUARTER DEVELOPMENTS, IN ORDER TO PROJECT IMPLICATIONS FOR THE U.S. IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE INSTRUCTIONS FOR TRENDS REPORTS; A VOLUNTARY REPORT IN JUNE-JULY COVERING FIRST HALF DEVELOPMENTS; A VOLUNTARY THIRD-QUARTER REPORT; THE CERP 0006 TRADE OUTLOOK ARTICLE DUE DECEMBER 1; AND A VOLUNTARY YEAR-END ANALYSIS IN JANUARY-FEBRUARY.

3(A) THE DEPARTMENT BELIEVES THERE WOULD BE STRONG RESISTANCE IN THE BUREAU OF INTERNATIONAL COMMERCE TO A PROPOSAL TO REPLACE CERP-1216 BEST PROSPECTS WITH SPOT REPORTING. THE PRODUCT INFORMATION SUBMITTED BY BELGRADE AND 53 OTHER EMBASSIES IS USED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE TO PRODUCE A GLOBAL INDUSTRY MATRIX. THIS MATRIX IS USED IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF A GLOBAL MARKETING STRATEGY FOR ALLOCATION OF BIC'S TRADE PROMOTION RESOURCES. A BLANK COLUMN FOR YUGOSLAVIA MAY NOT BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF OUR EFFORTS EACH YEAR TO GET A SHARE OF THOSE BIC RESOURCES FOR YUGOSLAVIA.  
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(B) EXPERIENCE HAS SHOWN THAT OTHER POSTS' EFFORTS TO ALTER THE FORMAT AND CONTENT OF THE BEST PROSPECTS LISTING HAVE NOT RPT NOT BEEN SUCCESSFUL. COUNTRIES IN EASTERN EUROPE COVERED BY THE BUREAU OF EAST-WEST TRADE (BEWT) HAVE NO RPT NO CERP 1216 REQUIREMENT AND ARE EXCLUDED FROM THE GLOBAL MATRIX, BUT TRADE PROMOTION EVENTS IN THE SOVIET UNION AND EASTERN EUROPE ARE NOT RPT

NOT FUNDED BY BIC. EUR AND EB ARE RELUCTANT TO APPROACH  
COMMERCE WITH TOO MANY PROPOSALS FOR PLACING CERP REQUIRE-  
MENTS FOR BELGRADE ON THE SAME BASIS AS FOR THE REST OF  
EASTERN EUROPE.

4. DEPARTMENT'S RESPONSE ON CCP VERSUS CAP FOR YUGOSLAVIA  
WILL BE SUBJECT OF SEPTTEL. INGERSOLL

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